GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:317
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2002
ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN EAST ASEAN ECONOMIES AND INDIA
SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Malaysian Prime Minister during his recent visit to New Delhi proposed a formal economic partnership between East Asean Economies and India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) proposed shape of this economic partnership?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH)

a) In his speech at the India-ASEAN Business Summit, held in New Delhi on October 17, 2002l, the Prime Minister of Malaysia calle upon India and ASEAN to work on a comprehensive economic partnership.

b & c) While no details were indicated by the Prime Minister of Malaysia, an India-ASEAN Task Force on Economic Linkages has been set up, and will, inter alia, prepare a draft Framework Agreement on enhancing bilateral economic cooperation.